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TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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DRY WEATHER ALLOWS FARMERS TO CATCH-UP

Farmers made excellent use of sunny, mild weather last week to complete many field activities postponed earlier by wet fields. Some of the major activities accomplished during the six days suitable for fieldwork last week were harvesting hay, spraying for weeds and insects, and topping tobacco. Tobacco growers topped an additional 17 percent of the crop and began harvest on a limited basis. Three-fourths of the State’s corn crop has entered the dough stage and development was a week ahead of schedule. Eighty-five percent of the crop was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition. Soybean development also continued to outpace the normal rate with 59 percent of the crop in the blooming stage and more than a third already setting pods. Cotton improved slightly from the previous week and was developing at a normal pace. Temperatures averaged below normal across the State for the week, while rainfall averaged below normal in Middle Tennessee and near or slightly above normal across the remainder of the state. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent very short, 17 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 12 percent short, 83 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through July 25, 2004					CONDITION: On July 23, 2004					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2003	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn Dough	75	50	61	58	Corn	1	3	11	50	35
Corn Dent	26	8	24	14	Cotton	0	1	14	60	25
Cotton - Setting Bolls	70	48	40	69	Soybeans	2	3	14	54	27
Soybeans - Blooming	59	35	33	49	Tobacco	4	7	24	51	14
Soybeans - Setting Pods	34	13	14	25	Pastures	0	2	12	66	20
Alfalfa Hay - Second Cutting	85	78	91	92						
Tobacco Topped	41	24	31	35						

CORN: Corn was beginning to mature with over a quarter of the acreage in the dent stage. Late planted corn in some areas could use a good rain at this point to make a decent crop. The majority of the State’s corn was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition.

COTTON: Farmers continued to apply plant growth regulators, as well as weed control. Areas with insect pressure were being spot treated as needed. Eighty-five percent of the crop was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition with no major problems reported.

SOYBEANS: More than half of the State’s soybeans had entered the blooming stage by week’s end with 34 percent of the acreage setting pods. Farmers were applying post-emerge herbicides to late season beans, as well as fungicide and insecticide treatments to early maturing Group II and III soybeans.

TOBACCO: Topping was the main activity last week as farmers gear up for harvest. Tobacco was rated in mostly good-to-fair condition.

PASTURES & HAY: Adequate moisture has kept pastures in mostly good-to-excellent condition. Some farmers were behind on hay harvest due to wet pastures or excessive growth. In a few areas, cattlemen were addressing fly and pink eye problems.

For week ending: July 25, 2004 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending July 25 th , 2004				Current Week 7/25/04	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	95	62	79	+0	0.04	1	36.59	+4.95	1456	+100
Tri-City_RGNL_A	88	57	73	-3	0.32	4	25.20	+0.47	1064	+188
Brownsville_TN	93	65	79	-2	0.22	3	31.94	+0.29	1554	+385
Chattanooga/Lov	94	63	79	-1	0.00	0	26.35	-5.71	1473	+237
Clarksville_Sew	92	63	78	-2	0.00	0	26.88	-2.92	1413	+235
Cookeville	88	59	74	-3	0.50	2	37.44	+3.65	1158	+453
Covington	92	65	78	-3	0.30	1	29.49	-1.80	1402	+23
Crossville_AP	85	58	73	-2	0.24	1	33.50	+0.10	1038	+225
Dickson_AG	89	59	75	-3	0.00	0	35.74	+3.58	1170	-69
Dover_1W	89	63	76	-2	0.00	0	26.85	-4.26	1319	+283
Dyersburg	91	64	79	-3	0.51	1	24.27	-5.68	1517	+42
Erwin_1W	88	57	73	+1	0.22	1	27.22	-2.41	1010	-51
Huntingdon_Wate	91	62	78	-2	0.80	1	33.56	+2.14	1411	+301
Jackson_Exp_Stn	93	62	78	-1	2.10	2	31.55	-0.02	1482	+180
Kingston_AG	89	60	76	+0	0.21	1	32.89	-2.07	1228	+282
Knoxville_AP	91	62	77	+0	0.17	1	29.42	+0.28	1357	+296
Lewisburg	92	59	76	-2	0.00	0	37.69	+4.50	1337	+260
Lexington_TN	92	62	77	-2	0.69	2	34.25	+3.66	1374	+616
Linden	93	60	77	-1	0.02	1	31.87	-1.56	1299	+208
Martin	92	61	79	-1	0.14	1	26.76	-4.84	1447	+200
Mc_Minnville_Tn	90	59	76	-2	0.20	2	35.36	+3.12	1325	-71
Memphis_AG	96	65	80	-4	1.13	1	32.66	+1.97	1543	-101
Milan	93	60	78	-2	0.14	2	28.43	-3.87	1413	+192
Murfreesboro_5N	92	60	77	-2	0.00	0	29.84	-1.73	1338	-44
Nashville_Metro	92	64	78	-2	0.00	0	33.47	+5.06	1443	+149
Newcomb	87	58	73	-2	0.16	1	29.34	-3.28	1038	+285
Oneida	86	59	73	+0	0.08	1	29.70	-2.92	1083	-70
Pikeville	91	59	76	-2	1.58	2	28.68	-3.43	1266	+214
Portland_TN	91	64	76	-2	0.25	1	36.63	+5.65	1290	+241
Pulaski_Water_P	90	61	76	-4	0.00	0	37.21	+4.23	1299	-11
Savannah_6SW	95	58	78	-3	3.46	1	40.22	+5.81	1439	+309
Sparta_TN	91	58	76	+0	0.87	2	38.27	+5.35	1387	+484
Springfield	91	60	76	-2	0.11	1	33.14	+3.31	1306	+240
Springhill	93	60	76	-2	0.00	0	37.00	+3.84	1386	+322
Union_City	90	61	78	-2	0.16	1	27.07	-3.77	1326	+102
Waynesboro_TN	92	58	76	-2	0.10	1	37.51	+2.62	1276	+15

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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